

Our Town

January/February 2021

TOWN of WAKE FOREST

Town of Wake Forest
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wakeforestnc.gov

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Improvements add value to your solid waste fee

In June 2020, the Wake Forest Board of Commissioners voted to change how the Town charges for solid waste collection. Since 2008 Wake Forest property owners have paid for solid waste service as part of their annual property tax bill. Beginning January 1, 2021, the service will no longer be covered solely by annual tax revenues but instead by a \$21 monthly solid waste fee included on residents' water bill.



5 IMPROVEMENTS to solid waste collection service

The New Year brings important improvements to the Town's solid waste collection service.

1 We've expanded yard waste service to now include every resident that receives trash and recycling service. Residents in single-family and townhome communities which previously did not receive yard waste service will begin receiving service.

2 We've eliminated the weight limit for bulk waste and expanded the list of acceptable items. Bulk waste is any acceptable trash that does not fit into your rollout cart such as furniture and rugs. Bulk waste collection must be scheduled online at wakeforestnc.gov, search "bulk waste."

3 We've doubled the weekly limits of yard waste that we'll pick up from your curb—up to 20 bags now.

4 We've doubled the amount of large brush that we'll collect—up to two pickup truck loads now. Large brush is any yard waste, including limbs over four feet in length, that does not fit into bags or yard waste containers. Large brush collection must be scheduled online at wakeforestnc.gov, search "large brush."

5 We're now accepting yard waste produced by your landscaper, as long as it meets Town guidelines for yard waste collection.

Visit wakeforestnc.gov, search "solid waste improvements," for complete details about collection service.

Holiday Schedule: Wake Forest Town Hall and all other administrative offices will be closed Jan. 1 for New Year's Day and Jan. 18 for Martin Luther King Jr. Day. For a complete list of Town holidays and any changes to Town services, visit wakeforestnc.gov and search "holiday schedule."

News Highlights

Nominate a Wake Forest resident to be recognized during Black History Month »

In celebration of Black History Month, the Wake Forest Human Relations Council will recognize Wake Forest African Americans throughout the month of February.

Nominees are requested for various categories including: educator, scientist, healthcare provider, athlete, musician, emergency worker, tradesperson and many more.

Nominations will be accepted Jan. 4–22 through the Town of Wake Forest website. Visit wakeforestnc.gov and search "black history month" for more details and to complete the online nomination form.

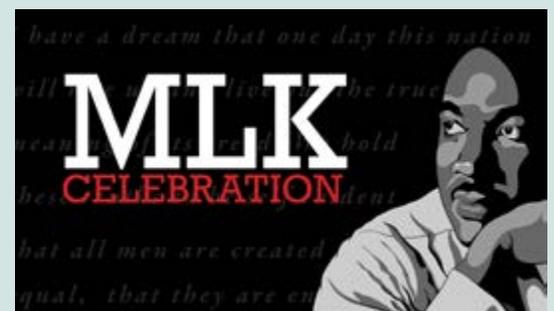


Martin Luther King, Jr. virtual community celebration January 21 »

Several local churches and community organizations will honor the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. with a virtual livestream program on Thursday, Jan. 21, at 6:30 p.m. Area residents are invited to watch the livestream on the Friendship Chapel Baptist Church Facebook page at www.facebook.com/FCBCWF.

The evening's theme will center around one of Dr. King's messages: "Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere."

For more information, contact Margo Grant at 919-435-7101.



State of the Town Address will be virtual this year

The 2021 State of the Town Address is scheduled for Monday, Feb. 15, at 6 p.m. At that time, Mayor Vivian Jones' pre-recorded address will be posted on the Town's Facebook page and broadcast on Wake Forest TV 10. The video will also be available to view on demand at wakeforestnc.gov.



Hosted by the Wake Forest Rotary Club, the occasion offers Wake Forest citizens the opportunity to reflect on the Town's accomplishments during the previous year and learn about its goals in the coming months.

Communications & Public Affairs
Director Bill Crabtree, ☎ 919-435-9421,
✉ bcrabtree@wakeforestnc.gov

PUBLIC WORKS

Bi-monthly loose leaf collection continues through March

The Town of Wake Forest's annual loose leaf collection program is underway and will continue through March 12.

When preparing leaves for collection, residents are urged to rake leaves into piles behind the curb, so they do not interfere with traffic or drainage.



Also, do not mix sticks, rocks or pine cones with loose leaves. Keep brush away from other objects such as, fences, walls,

water meters, utility poles, mailboxes, fire hydrants and cars.

Wake Forest residents can track the progress of leaf collection crews by calling the Leaf Collection Hotline at 919-435-9582. The hotline is updated each weekday morning by 8 a.m. with information concerning where crews will be working that day.

🌐 wakeforestnc.gov, search "leaf collection", Yard Waste Collection Supervisor Chad Hildebrandt, ☎ 919-435-9575, ✉ childebrandt@wakeforestnc.gov

New guidelines for preparing your

BULK & YARD WASTE

for collection

Put small yard waste in containers, clear plastic or biodegradable bags

We will collect up to 10 containers or 20 bags a week

No black bags



Tree limbs over 4 feet in length that do not fit into bags or yard waste containers must be scheduled for pickup

Schedule online at wakeforestnc.gov, search for "large brush pickup"

We will collect up to the amount that would fit into two pickup trucks at a time

Only for customers receiving waste collection services from the Town



Bulk waste of any weight is now accepted

No weight requirement for trash that does not fit into your rollout cart

Schedule your pickup online at wakeforestnc.gov, search for "bulk waste pickup"

Two free collections per year

Additional collections charged after July 2021

No cleanouts



For complete details about the Town of Wake Forest's trash, recycling and yard waste collection service visit wakeforestnc.gov and search "solid waste."

Public Works Department, ✉ publicworksdept@wakeforestnc.gov, ☎ 919-435-9570

GOT A SPILL?

Don't hose it down or bury it.

Spills flow directly from storm drains into creeks & streams



The Town of Wake Forest is working to find and eliminate contaminants that threaten the health of our waterways. This protects the quality of streams, and limits damage to fish and wildlife. By reporting spills of hazardous materials, such as automotive fluids, chemicals or pesticides, residents can play a key role in protecting our waterways.

Spills are typically accidental and should be cleaned up immediately to prevent entry into the stormwater conveyance system. Preventing spills of materials and wastes is a significant component of protecting our waterways. However, even with the best prevention efforts, spills may still occur.

How to respond to a spill

If a spill of hazardous materials (fuel, chemicals, fertilizer, etc) is observed, safety should be the first and foremost concern. Quickly assess the situation and if safe, take immediate action to limit the impact of the spill. Turn containers upright and evacuate the site, closing doors as everyone leaves. Once at a safe distance, report the spill and wait for further instruction.

If the spill diameter of a hazardous material is greater than 18", or the site feels unsafe given the quality or quantity of material spilled, it is important to quickly notify emergency services. The contacts listed here can provide instruction for initial response and can recruit professionals

who can effectively contain and clean-up the spilled material. Only properly trained and protected professionals should handle hazardous spills.

How to report a spill

For emergency services dial 911.

To report the spill, go to wakeforestnc.gov and search "report a problem." Use the SeeClickFix function on the website to submit your request. Or call the Wake Forest Public Works Department at 919-435-9570 during regular business hours.

Be prepared to provide the time, date and location of the spill, what was discharged and the estimated volume.

wakeforestnc.gov, search "stormwater management" Stormwater Engineer Monica Sarna, ☎ 919-435-9442, ✉ msarna@wakeforestnc.gov



Report a problem using SeeClickFix

Now you can immediately report non-emergency problems to the Town of Wake Forest from your smartphone, tablet, or computer, thanks to the Town's partnership with SeeClickFix.

Use the Town of Wake Forest website or app to report issues such as damaged sidewalks, street light outages, park issues and potholes. Requests are routed directly to the attention of the appropriate town staff

for responsible handling.

To report a problem, go to wakeforestnc.gov and search "report a problem." On the "Report a Problem" web page, enter your request in the SeeClickFix window.

Or, download the Town of Wake Forest app and submit your request using the "SeeClickFix" function.

📍 wakeforestnc.gov, search "report a problem"

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Police thank public for its generosity

The Wake Forest Police Department wishes to thank the community for donations to the 2020 Turkey Drive and Shop With A Cop.



The WFPD received over \$11,000 for the Turkey Drive—a new record! Thanks to our community's incredible generosity, the Police Department purchased 600 turkeys and gave them to Tri-Area Ministry, Hope House and other local organizations for distribution to those in need. The department had hoped to purchase and give away even more turkeys, but the supplier had fewer to sell this year due to COVID-19. Remaining funds from 2020 will be used to purchase additional turkeys in 2021.

In addition, Shop With A Cop provided 25 underprivileged children with a holiday shopping spree at Walmart. Shop With a Cop and the annual Turkey Drive are 'Wake Forest Cares' initiatives.



NORTHERN WAKE SENIOR CENTER

Senior center invites residents to Name That Tune

Every other Tuesday from 1:30–3 p.m. join the fun in a virtual version of Name That Tune. The online event is offered by the Northern Wake Senior Center and sponsored by Aetna. Music will focus on songs from the sixties.

Call the Northern Wake Senior Center at 919-554-4111 to register and to receive the Zoom link.



To see the Northern Wake Senior Center's weekly newsletter, visit wakeforestnc.gov and search "senior center."

FINANCE

Citizens Financial Report now available

The Town of Wake Forest is pleased to present the 2020 Citizens Financial Report. The document is an abbreviated summary of the Town's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR).

Offering financial and operational information in a summarized format, the 16-page report provides an overview of the Town's financial results in a manner that is easy to understand by those without a background in public finance or accounting.



What you will find in the Citizens Financial Report:

- Town's balance sheet and income statement
- General Fund revenues and expenditures
- Breakdown of how your town property tax dollars are spent
- Major projects and developments in process and upcoming for the next year
- Fiscal year highlights
- Future debt issuance
- Budget overview for 2020-2021
- Listing of major taxpayers and major employers
- Finance and budget awards and accomplishments

The report is available on the Town's website and on the Town's Open Data Portal.

🌐 wakeforestnc.gov, search "citizens financial report", CFO Aileen Staples, ✉ astaples@wakeforestnc.gov, ☎ 919-435-9461

POLICE

Police urge residents to lock unoccupied vehicles

The Wake Forest Police Department (WFPD) regularly implores residents to help reduce motor vehicle break-ins by locking their car doors. A vast majority of the reported car break-ins in Wake Forest involve unlocked vehicles.

Those pleas are taking on an even greater sense of urgency after another rash of break-ins involving unlocked vehicles. Once again, thieves engaged in what is known as "car-hopping" in several Wake Forest subdivisions. Car-hopping occurs when criminals roam neighborhoods at night, pulling on car door handles, hoping to find an open vehicle.



Police officials say it's a numbers game. For every 10 cars a criminal checks, they expect to find at least a couple open, so there is no need to physically break a window or door lock to get in.

Simply put, the best way to avoid becoming a victim is by locking your unoccupied vehicles at all times, removing your valuable items and any extra set of keys from the vehicle, and double-checking to make sure your car is locked before going to bed at night. If an item can't be removed, then it's best to make sure it is out of sight.

To report suspicious behavior or activity, call 919-554-6150 or 919-556-9111.

PLANNING

Town introduces zoning enforcement violations dashboard

The Town of Wake Forest has launched a new web-based dashboard that allows residents to view zoning enforcement violations by address. Available on the Town's website, the platform allows residents to track the type of violation, the current number of open and closed cases, and the Town's response.

"This is another way we are offering insight into our efforts to manage and foster a safe and vibrant community," said Planning Director Courtney Tanner. "We believe this tool emphasizes the importance we place on transparency, communicating with our citizens and responding to their concerns in an efficient and public manner."

Zoning enforcement is an extension of the Planning Department. Typical code violations involve one or a combination of the following areas related to the Unified Development Ordinance (UDO) and/or Municipal Code:

- Tall grass/weeds
- Trash/debris on private property
- Junk and abandoned vehicles
- Abandoned structures
- Illegal signs
- Illegal uses
- Landscaping violations

Through the efforts of the Town's Zoning Compliance Officer, the Planning Department strives to correct all applicable violations within a timely and effective manner.

Visit the dashboard at wakeforestnc.gov, search "zoning enforcement." Anyone wishing to report a violation may do so via SeeClickFix at wakeforestnc.gov/report-problem.

🌐 wakeforestnc.gov, search "zoning enforcement", Zoning Compliance Officer Brad Pleasant, ☎ 919-435-9541, ✉ bpleasant@wakeforestnc.gov



Loose trash in trucks creates litter along Wake Forest roadways.

Help keep Wake Forest roadways clean by securing any trash in your truck bed. When you throw trash in the back of your truck, it inevitably blows out and becomes litter on the roadside. Roadside litter costs millions of dollars to remove, decreases property values and has a negative impact on tourism.

The NC Department of Public Safety reports

that an even bigger problem is unsecured loads in the back of trucks. At high speeds, even large items can fly out and hurt or startle other drivers causing accidents.

Put trash into built-in containers. Use tarps, cargo nets and tie-downs to secure any loads.

Keep trash secured in your truck.

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Perkins Counseling & Psychological Services is pleased to welcome Liz Vaughan, MSN, APRN, CPNP-PC.

With Liz on our team, we can now provide medication management as part of our comprehensive services. Liz is a Pediatric Nurse Practitioner specializing in Pediatric Mental and Behavioral Health. She conducts psychiatric assessments, evaluations, and management (including medication) for ages birth to twenty-one. Liz is a pleasant and collaborative presence here and will work with you and your child as part of their treatment team.

To set up an appointment with Liz Vaughan, call 919-263-9592 option 5.

919-263-9592 info@perkinscps.com

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PUBLIC SAFETY

Town urges pet owners to obey leash law



The Town of Wake Forest encourages local pet owners to be good neighbors and great pet owners by obeying Wake County's leash law.

The Town regularly receives complaints from local residents about dogs running at large – particularly at Town parks. Although Wake Forest does not have an ordinance pertaining to dogs, Wake County Animal Control has jurisdiction to enforce animal control laws within the town and its park system.

Any owner permitting an animal to be at large shall pay a civil penalty of \$100 for the first violation.

Flaherty Dog Park, 1100 N. White St., provides a free place for dog owners to let their pets run free safely and legally without a leash. Approximately two acres in size, the park is open from dawn to dusk and located adjacent to the Flaherty Park baseball and softball fields. For more information about Flaherty Dog Park, visit wakeforestnc.gov and search "Flaherty Dog Park."

To report an animal control problem, call Wake County Animal Control at 919-212-PETS (7387).

PARKS, RECREATION & CULTURAL RESOURCES

RecConnect going largely digital, residents urged to sign up for email delivery

After a 15-year run, the Wake Forest Parks, Recreation & Cultural Resources Department is discontinuing the mass mailing of its biannual program guide to residents in the 27587 zip code. Beginning in February, a limited number of *RecConnect* copies will be printed and available for pickup at Town Hall, 301 S. Brooks St., and PRCR facilities, such as Joyner Park Community Center, 701 Harris Road, Flaherty Park Community Center, 1226 N. White St., and Alston-Massenburg Center, 416 S. Taylor St.

In anticipation of this change, residents accustomed to receiving the program guide in the mail are encouraged to sign up to receive *RecConnect* via email at wakeforestnc.gov/communications/e-notifier. The publication will continue to be available to view/download online at wakeforestnc.gov, search "RecConnect."

Although printed editions of *RecConnect* will no longer arrive in mailboxes, the same high-quality content will continue to be included in each issue. Published twice a year, *RecConnect* provides complete information on parks and recreation-sponsored programs and activities for people of all ages, including youth and adult athletics, cultural programs and classes, and special events.

In addition to generating a significant cost savings, the transition from a printed to largely digital publication will allow staff to update information in *RecConnect* as programs change.



🌐 wakeforestnc.gov, search "RecConnect", ☎ 919-435-9560

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URBAN FORESTRY

Understanding the Town of Wake Forest's Urban Forest

All trees located throughout Wake Forest make up the urban forest. Trees that are located in the public right-of-way, on public grounds, and within street tree easements are municipal-owned trees and are an important component of the Town of Wake Forest's urban infrastructure.

Trees provide a wide variety of social, community, economic and environmental benefits for us all that include such things as climate moderation, better air quality, water conservation, habitat for birds and other wildlife and increased property values. All street trees located on municipally owned or controlled property are protected by the Vegetation Ordinance of the Municipal Code.



The Town of Wake Forest requires street trees to be planted in all new developments. This requirement helps to ensure that Wake Forest remains a community of tree-lined streets with a unified streetscape that provides visual interest to pedestrians and motorists. The Town of Wake Forest is responsible for the planting, protection, maintenance and removal of these trees.

Who is responsible for maintaining the tree in front of my property? The Town of Wake Forest's Urban Forestry Division is responsible for maintaining trees that are located within public street rights-of-way and street tree easements. Maintenance includes pruning, treating for insect and disease infestations, removal, stump grinding and planting.



How do I know if a tree is within the public street right-of-way or street tree easement? The street right-of-way is typically measured from back of sidewalk, to back of sidewalk (or if there are no sidewalks, property line to property line) perpendicular across the street. Trees planted between the curb and sidewalk, or between the curb and property line, are considered within the public right-of-way. Trees planted in a street tree easement are often planted within an 8-foot

zone outside the right-of-way; in other words, 8 feet within the homeowner's property line.

Can the Town of Wake Forest plant trees in the right-of-way?

Yes. The Town maintains the right to plant trees anywhere in the right of way or within the street tree easement.

🌐 wakeforestnc.gov, search "urban forest," Urban Forestry Coordinator Luke Devores, ✉ ldevores@wakeforestnc.gov, ☎ 919-435-9565




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Town's high-speed fiber network initiative is underway

Utility Services Contractors is installing a high-speed fiber network to support the Town's public safety efforts and critical administrative activities.

CTC Technology & Energy is managing the \$2.5 million installation which extends from Town Hall and will interconnect 14 Town facilities. Construction for the underground fiber network began in February 2020 and is expected to be complete by spring 2021.

Residents can track the progress of the fiber installation by visiting wakeforestnc.gov and searching "fiber infrastructure dashboard."

Chief Information Officer
Adam Oates, ☎ 919-435-9501,
✉ aoates@wakeforestnc.gov



HISTORIC PRESERVATION

Proclamations honor three notable African Americans in Wake Forest

Tune in to the January 19 Board of Commissioners meeting as Mayor Jones reads proclamations honoring Evelyn Jones, Dianne Laws and Roger Shackelford. All three residents were born and raised in Northeast Wake Forest and have provided countless hours contributing to the historical record and body of knowledge regarding African American history in Wake Forest.

Evelyn Jones has served the community of Wake Forest throughout her life. She has sought to educate the public about Wake Forest's African American history by serving on the Wake Forest Historical Association Board, contributing photographs to the Wake Forest Historical Museum, participating in an oral history project, providing narratives and being a docent on the Historic Wake Forest Cemetery Walking Tour.

Dianne Laws was instrumental in obtaining the grant to conduct the Ground Penetrating Radar study of the Old Cemetery at Friendship Chapel Baptist Church. She has contributed countless hours to the

rehabilitation of the Ailey Young House by sharing her childhood memories, guiding the rehabilitation project and advocating for the preservation of the house as an African American Heritage Site.

Roger Shackelford was instrumental in obtaining the grant to conduct the Ground Penetrating Radar study of the Old Cemetery at Friendship Chapel Baptist Church. He advocated for the designation of the Old Cemetery as a Local Historic Landmark. He has contributed countless hours to the rehabilitation of the Ailey Young House by sharing his memories and guiding the rehabilitation project. He has led educational programs and events about the history of the Ailey Young House and the Northeast neighborhood.

"Since I began working for the Town in 2014, these three have been instrumental in teaching me about growing up in the Northeast Area of Wake Forest. They are true treasures in the Wake Forest community and I am grateful for each one of them," says Senior Planner Michelle Michael who focuses on historic preservation.



Evelyn Jones



Roger Shackelford



Dianne Laws

Watch board meetings on Town's website
Meetings can be viewed both live and on demand through the
Public Meeting Portal. wakeforestnc.gov, search "public meeting portal"

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETINGS

Third Tuesday | 7 p.m.
Town Hall Board Room

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS WORK SESSION

First Tuesday | 5:30 p.m.
Town Hall Board Room

PLANNING BOARD MEETINGS

First Tuesday | 7:30 p.m.
Town Hall Board Room

View meetings :

- live on **WFTV 10** and re-broadcast at 9 a.m., 3 p.m. and 9 p.m. daily for up to two weeks after the meeting
- live at wakeforestnc.gov, search "wftv 10", and on-demand in streaming video



WFTV 10 is the Town's government access channel available to Spectrum TV subscribers. Watch WFTV 10 live online at wakeforestnc.gov, search "wftv 10".

STAYING INFORMED

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wakeforestnc.gov



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